GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6764
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2005
THEFT IN COAL MINES
Mohale Shri Punnulal

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified such coal mines in Korba (Chhattisgarh) and other parts of country in which the incidents of pilferage of coal are increasing;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents that came to light, company-wise and mine-wise so far during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the estimated quantity of coal pilfered, year-wise;

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government to check the pilferage;

(e) whether the Government is considering to involve the trade unions in the move to check the pilferage;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the details of the punishment meted out to the guilty persons?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO):

(a) to (c) As per raids conducted by security personnel as well as joint raids with the law and order authorities of the concerned State Governments during last three years, the following quantities were recovered in the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited:

	2002-2003		2003-2004		2004-2005 (upto Feb.2005 (Prov.)	
Company	FIRs lod- ged (te)	Qty. App. reco- vered Value Lakh)	FIRs lod- ged (te)	Qty. App. reco- vered Value Lakh)	FIRs lod- ged (te)	Qty. App. reco- vered Value (Rs. Lakh)
ECL	804	14140.00 113.00	698	11912.00 95.46	372	10032.85 80.23
BCCL	47	71.69 0.977	155	5223.23 54.86	329	2476.14 34.25
CCL	13	704.50 7.00	11	1200.00 12.06	26	2255.00 22.90
NCL	0	0 0	1	9.00 0.07		
WCL	20	277.21 2.23	18	169.39 1.66	4	16.80 0.16
SECL	7	65.48 0.55	17	139.50 1.54	43 & 2(RPF)	689.71 7.14
MCL	4	34.60 0.16	3	31.00 0.15	10 & 4(RPF)	104.02 0.63

NEC 40 49.70 0.53 0 0 0 38 137.57 1.70

Total 935 15343.18 124.45 903 18,684.12 165.8 822+ 15712.09 209.38
6(RPF)

(d) Law and order is a State subject,hence the coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities. In addition, the following steps are being taken by subsidiary companies of CIL to prevent theft/pilferage of coal:

(i) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

(ii) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable points to check transport documents.

(iii) Construction of watch-towers and providing lighting arrangements around the coal stacking area.

(iv) Erection of barbed/wire/wali fencing around pithead depots, static security posts including deployment of armed guards during the night hours.

(v) Escorting of loaded rakes upto railway weigh bridges by armed guards and joint patrolling with Railway Protection Force (RPF) in the long railway tracks, which are prone to wagon looting.

(vi) Sealing of illegal mining spots.

(vii) Stringent action against transport vehicles caught in the act of theft or pilferage.

(viii) Engagement of lady security guards for preventing women and children indulging in theft/ pilferage of coal, strengthening of the security discipline by reassessing the requirement of security personnel,horizontal movement of executives with aptitude for security work and inducting qualified security personnel at junior, middle and senior levels.

(ix) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training to new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security set up.

(e) and (f) The measures to curb theft/pilferage of coal are regularly discussed with the Trade Unions at different levels.

(g) if any employee of the company is involved in pilferage, departmental action is taken as per company`s rules. In case of non-employees involved in pilferage of coal, FIR is lodged with the Police.The State Administration takes action as per law.